

Message Text

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PASS USDEL LUGANO WEAPONS CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 615 ACTION SECSTATE 28 JAN 76.

QUOTE

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TAGS: OCON, ICRC

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS ON WEAPONS

FOLLOWING IS ICRC PRESS RELEASE NO. 1257B OF 28 JANUARY 1976
CONCERNING SUBJECT CONFERENCE. QUOTE:

SECOND SESSION OF CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS ON WEAPONS
OPENS AT LUGANO

GENEVA (CICR) - THE SECOND SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF GOVERN-
MENT EXPERTS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, CONVENED
BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) OPENED
ON 28 JANUARY IN THE CONFERENCE CENTRE AT LUGANO. THE SESSION,
ATTENDED BY SOME 120 LEGAL, MILITARY AND MEDICAL EXPERTS FROM
ABOUT 40 COUNTRIES, WILL CONTINUE UNTIL 26 FEBRUARY.

AT THE OPENING MEETING, PRESIDED OVER BY MR. JEAN PICTET, VICE-
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PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC AND PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE, SPEAKERS

INCLUDED MR. BENITO BERNASCONI, PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE CANTON OF TESSIN, MR. FERRUCCIO PELLI, MAYOR OF LUGANO, AND DR. ERIC MARTIN, PRESIDENT OF THE ICRC.

THE THREE SPEAKERS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD ARRIVE AT CONCRETE AND POSITIVE RESULTS.

DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE AT LUCERNE IN 1974, THE EXPERTS, AFTER WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSIONS, DREW UP A LIST OF WEAPONS TO BE STUDIED, INCLUDING INCENDIARY WEAPONS, SMALL-CALIBRE PROJECTILES WITH HIGH MUZZLE VELOCITY, BLAST AND FRAGMENTATION WEAPONS, DELAYED-ACTION WEAPONS AND WEAPONS OF THE FUTURE.

AT LUGANO, THE EXPERTS WILL ATTEMPT TO DEFINE RULES AIMED AT LIMITING OR FORBIDDING THE USE OF SUCH WEAPONS WITH PARTICULARLY CRUEL EFFECTS. UNQUOTE. DALE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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